



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
PAY-AS-YOU-GO ESTIMATE**

April 6, 1998

**S. 493**

**Wireless Telephone Protection Act**

*As cleared by the Congress on April 1, 1998*

S. 493 would make it easier for United States attorneys to prosecute certain fraud offenses involving wireless telephones; in addition, the act would provide for criminal forfeiture of any personal property used to commit such offenses. Enacting S. 493 could affect direct spending and receipts, but CBO estimates that any such effects would not be significant.

S. 493 could increase the number of successful prosecutions against perpetrators of wireless telephone fraud. As a result, collections of criminal fines could increase. Criminal fines are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and are spent in the following year. Thus, any change in direct spending would match the increase in revenues with a one-year lag.

The act could also result in the seizure and forfeiture of more assets to the federal government. The proceeds from asset forfeitures are deposited as revenues in the Assets Forfeiture Fund of the Department of Justice and spent from that fund in the same year. We estimate that any increase in revenues or spending related to criminal fines and asset forfeitures would be less than \$500,000 annually.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.